

Message Text

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43

ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 NEA-14 ISO-00 CAB-09 CIAE-00 COME-00

DODE-00 DOTE-00 INR-11 NSAE-00 RSC-01 FAA-00 PM-07

L-03 PA-04 PRS-01 USIA-15 DRC-01 /103 W

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P R 201146Z SEP 74

FM AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

TO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 399

AMEMBASSY LONDON

C O N F I D E N T I A L BEIRUT 11445

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: EAIR SY

SUBJ: CIVAIR - SYRIAN ARAB AIRLINES REEQUIPMENT; LOCKHEED

TRISTAR DEMONSTRATION DAMASCUS

1. GEORGE LOMBARD, LOCKHEED-CALIF SALES DIR
FOR SYRIA, WOULD APPRECIATE AMBASSADOR STERNER ASSESSING
RECEPTION OF MAHDI TAJER TO AMB STERNER'S LETTER
CONCERNING U S AIRCRAFT. LOMBARD IS ANXIOUS TO ASCERTAIN
TAJER'S PRESENT ATTITUDE TOWARDS TRISTAR AND WHETHER
OR NOT THIS ATTITUDE HAS BEEN CONVEYED TO SHEIK ZIAD.

2. TAJER WAS EXPECTED IN DAMASCUS SEP 18 OR 19
BUT DID NOT APPEAR, WHICH LOMBARD BELIVES MAY HAVE
BEEN ONE OF REASONS WHY PRES ASSAD DID NOT ARRANGE
HIS SCHEDULE TO PERMIT HIS FLYING ON THE DEMONSTRATOR.

3. LOCKHEED TRISTAR DEMONSTRATION, DAMASCUS, SEP 19,
APPEARED TO BE VERY SUCCESSFUL AND INCLUDED AN IMPRESSIVE
AUTOLAND (AUTOMATIC HANDS-OFF) LANDING DAMASCUS INTERNATIONAL
AIRPORT. SYRIAN OFFICIALS ATTENDING THE TRISTAR
DEMONSTRATION INCLUDED DEP MIN OF TOURISM; SYRIAN
ARAB AIRLINES DIR OF ENGINEERING; AIR FORCE CHIEF OF INTELLIGENCE
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AND AIRLINE BOARD DIR COL AL-KHOULI,

WHO IS ALSO MEMBER OF AIRCRAFT SELECTION COMMITTEE.
CHAIRMAN OF SELECTION COMMITTEE/VICE MIN OF DEFENSE/
CHIEF OF AIR FORCE, NAZHI JAMIL, DID NOT ATTEND DEMONSTRATION
SINCE HE WAS APPARENTLY TIED UP WITH PRES ASSAD. SYRIAN
ARAB CHAIRMAN MOUKAYED AND SYRIAN ARAB PRES/GEN MANAGER
ANTAR ALSO DID NOT ATTEND DEMONSTRATION SINCE HTEY
ARE AT IATA ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING, MONTREAL. AMERICAN
EMB DAMASCUS WAS REPRESENTED ON THE TRISTAR DEMONSTRATION
BY AMB MURPHY AND ECON OFF WRIGHT, IN ADDITION TO RCAA SWOR.
GODLEY

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Message Attributes

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